

I thank Chairman GRIJALVA and Chairwoman LEGER FERNANDEZ for their cooperation on this bill.

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is a relatively small Tribe located in the Great Smoky Mountains of western North Carolina. The Tribe's reservation covers over 50,000 acres in a region known as the Qualla Boundary.

After the completion of the Tellico Dam in Loudon County, Tennessee, in 1979, the Tribe explained to the Tennessee Valley Authority that there were areas of historic significance impacted by the dam.

H.R. 2088 would place Tennessee Valley Authority land and permanent easements into trust along the shores of the Little Tennessee River and Tellico Reservoir in Monroe County, Tennessee, for the benefit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

The parcels to be placed in trust under the bill would primarily be used for memorializing and interpreting the history of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Gaming pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act would be prohibited, and TVA will be able to continue carrying out river control and development to power the Tennessee Valley region.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of the measure, and I recognize the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN) for his continued work on this important legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN).

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 2088, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Act.

The great State of Tennessee, my home State, gets its name from the historic Overhill Cherokee village site called Tanasi located in present-day Monroe County, Tennessee. Tanasi served as the capital of the Cherokee people from as early as 1721.

Unfortunately, as a result of misguided Federal policies, the Cherokee people were forcibly removed from their homes in Tennessee and surrounding States. This tragic period in American history led to the Trail of Tears, a journey on which the United States forcibly marched 15,000 Cherokees to the Indian territory.

My bill, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Act, returns important historical sites back to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Tribal Nation comprised of descendants of those Cherokees who resisted removal in the Great Smoky Mountains.

It is on these same lands where the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians have for decades honored the birthplace of Sequoyah, whose likeness we have all had the opportunity to pass as we make our way from the rotunda of our Capitol to this House floor.

H.R. 2088 would return 76.1 acres of TVA land back to the Eastern Band of Cherokees in trust and grant two per-

manent easements over TVA property to be held in trust for the Tribe for creating recreational trails between the sites.

The Tribe is committed to improving the educational resources of the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum and to providing a means for economic development for the local community through cultural tourism.

The Cherokee Nation has a rich history in the Third District of Tennessee, and I am grateful to be engaged in the process to safeguard their story.

This exact piece of legislation has easily passed the House with broad bipartisan support for the last two Congresses. I strongly urge Members of the United States Senate to understand the importance of Cherokee Tribal land preservation and to support H.R. 2088 so that it may be brought to President Biden's desk in an accelerated manner.

November serves as Indigenous People's Month, and I encourage all of my colleagues in both Chambers to join in passing this momentous piece of legislation.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I again thank the gentleman from Tennessee for his work on this legislation. I thank the chairman and the chairwoman for their work on this package of bills.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I once again thank Ranking Member WESTERMAN for his support of this package of bipartisan bills that we have brought to the floor today.

It is historic that we begin this month with this commitment to these bills and to getting them passed in a bipartisan manner.

I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN) for his work and for the bipartisan support we have today on this floor for cultural preservation of Tribal sites.

The idea that we are committed to safeguard—that is such a beautiful word he used—the stories and places of sacred importance to Tribes because we know that too often they are overrun with other interests, that they take over, and they lose those sacred sites.

I am so grateful to all of you for the support of this legislation and the other pieces of legislation that we have brought forward today, which we emphasize, and we dedicate ourselves to a new era where we are working to protect sacred sites, where we are making sure that the healthcare of Indian Tribes is maintained and improved in our urban areas.

It is a very good day on the floor.

I urge all my colleagues to support this bill and all eight bills we have brought forward today.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2088, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 28, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write to respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,

PETE SESSIONS,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.
There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT STAFF ASSISTANT, THE HONORABLE CHARLIE CRIST, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Abimael Jimenez, District Staff Assistant, the Honorable CHARLIE CRIST, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 27, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Abimael Jimenez, have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Small Claims Division of the County Court for Pinellas County, Florida.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

ABIMAEEL JIMENEZ,
District Staff Assistant.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Ethics: